

June usgf NEWS

Official Publication of the United States Gymnastics Federation P.O. Box 46099 Tucson, Arizona 85717 U.S.A.







EDITORIAL . June 1974

The last meeting of the F.I.G. Executive Committee was held in Switzerland. It provided each of us on that Committee with an opportunity to see the FIG's offices, and also to visit the national training center for the Swiss national team which was located just a few minutes from the meeting hotel. The meetings were important ones with many significant items on the agenda.

The FIG voted to remove the 1974 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS from Varna, Bulgaria. The Bulgarian government had to date refused to assure that Israel and South Africa (both bona-fide members of FIG) that they could obtain Visas for entry into that country. The 1974 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS will be held in Munich, Germany from October 20th through the 27th. The USGF Tour to that event remains intact, and already our travel representatives have located a hotel, and charter flights are now being arranged.

Next, it was unfortunate that Tunisia, which had successfully bid to host the 1974 F.I.G. Congress in September, regretfully informed the FIG that they could not grant Visas to Israel or South Africa. It was then voted upon, and the FIG Congress for 1974 was cancelled with plans to move forward for a 1975 Congress at a date and site to be determined.

It is important to each of you reading this to know that the action of the F.I.G. Executive Committee was not taken to defend South Africa or Israel. They, in fact, need no defending. The principal was quite clear. The host nation for an FIG event does not have the right to determine who participates and who does not participate. It was that simple an issue, and the vote was unquestionably made to support basic principles.

The USGF Men's National Elite Championships was held at Berkeley California on May 8-10th and it was an excellent event. Coach Harold Frey did an outstanding job, and much more is reported on that meet by Frank Cumiskey in other parts of this Newsletter. Plans have been made for final trials, and the twelve qualifiers will compete to make the team for Munich.

We have two male and two female gymnasts going to Varna to participate in the "Golden Sands" Invitational . . . In June. Just after that event we will be sending two girls to Antibes, France for the invitational women's tournament there . . . and then in August we will send five Junior-Senior girls to Japan for the All-Japan Junior Championships and three other exhibition matches. 1975 will see the First officially sponsored WORLD CUP in Madrid, Spain. The first two were USGF sponsored events in Long Beach and Miami . . . now it has become a FIG event for the top 12 men and women in the world.

The sport continues to grow at a remarkable rate. Some good signs for men's gymnastics are that there now appear to be some private schools opening in several parts of the nation with emphasis on boys . . . as opposed to the national trend since Olga Korbut came on the scene of having schools for girls only. Further, since the USGF went to all-around only format and had eleven (11) men in the meet . . . this year's event at Berkeley saw 35 men qualify through the regionals to get to that event. Some regions started with 35 in their region alone. Now with some emphasis on the compulsion . . . and some serious concentration, the men's image should begin to move upward. John Crosby's Gold Medal in Moscow was a great help.

Frank L. Barr, Executive Director

UNITED STATES GYMNASTICS FEDERATION MEN'S "CHAMPIONSHIPS OF THE USA"

The USGF Gymnastics "Championships of the USA" was hosted by the University of California at Berkeley on May 10, 11 under the direction of Dr. Harold Frey, Gymnastics Coach at the University. The competition was well-run and was a thinking match since in addition to crowning the winning Regional Team, the Champions in the All Around and each event, the top 12 finishers in the ALL AROUND will be eligible to compete in the Final World Games Trials in September when the team will be selected to represent the United States in Munich on October '74.

The competition opened on Friday evening with the 36 best gymnasts in the United States competing. The competition was originally prepared for 4 regional teams (East, Mid-East, Mid-West, West) of 8 men each for a total of 32, however, since one region might have a man qualify with a score in 6th place lower than some who would not qualify in the top six, the entry requirements were changed. As it happened the Mid-East qualified a man with 99.4 points and therefore anyone who competed in one of the other regions and scored at least 99.4 became eligible to enter.

There was a fine crowd present for the compulsores and as the meet progressed, it became apparent that our gymnasts were weak on the compulsores, especially on the Pommel Horse where the top score was 8.85. The night ended with only 3.50 points between 1st and 21st. The standing after the compulsores was as follows: J. Whelan - 53.60, T. Weeden - 52.60, J. Crosby - 52.35, M. Awerer - 52.35, G. Whelan - 52.15, S. Pomeroy - 52.10, M. Carter - 51.85, D. Ritter - 51.70, J. Stephenson - 51.65, B. Simmons - 51.45, D. Fitzgerald - 51.35, J. Ivack - 51.35. These 12 eventually became the final 12 after the Optionals.

In the Optionals on Saturday, the scores were much better, as they generally are. John Crosby led the way with a score of 55.25. The meet was thinking with places changing after each event. The ALL AROUND ELITE 12 who will compete in the Final trials are:



| | | |
|-----|-----------------|--------|
| 1. | John Crosby | 107.60 |
| 2. | Jay Whelan | 107.45 |
| 3. | Tom Weeden | 107.05 |
| 4. | Marshall Awerer | 106.75 |
| 5. | Gene Whelan | 106.20 |
| 6. | Jim Ivack | 106.00 |
| 7. | Jim Stephenson | 105.45 |
| 8. | Mike Carter | 105.35 |
| 9. | Brent Simmons | 105.00 |
| 10. | Doug Fitzgerald | 104.30 |
| 11. | Steve Pomeroy | 104.05 |
| 12. | Dusty Ritter | 104.00 |

| Floor Exercise | | Score |
|----------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1. | John Crosby | 99.025 |
| 2. | Doug Fitzgerald | 98.750 |
| 3. | Steve Pomeroy | 18.200 |
| 4. | Jim Stephenson | 17.825 |
| 5. | Mark Gusham | 17.775 |
| 6. | Tom Weeden | 17.175 |

| Pommel Horse | | Score |
|--------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1. | Marshall Awerer | 17.675 |
| 2. | Mike Carter | 16.85 |
| 3. | John Crosby | 16.125 |
| 4. | Tom Weeden | 15.975 |
| 5. | Jay Whelan | 15.875 |
| 6. | Bob Roth | 15.560 |



| Rings | | Score |
|-------|-----------------|-------|
| 1. | Tom Weeden | 18.50 |
| 2. | Jim Ivack | 18.35 |
| 3. | Brent Simmons | 18.20 |
| 4. | Marshall Awerer | 17.8 |
| 5. | Bob Anderson | 17.15 |
| 6. | Jay Whelan | 16.75 |

The Regional Team Championship was won by the East for the second year in a row. Gene Wettstone and Abe Grossfeld were co-coaches of a strong team composed of John Crosby, Marshall Awerer, Jay & Gene Whelan, Jim Krust and Jim Culhane. They scored a total of 532.45 points, the Mid-West scored 527.75, the West, 522.29 and the Mid-East had 510.90.

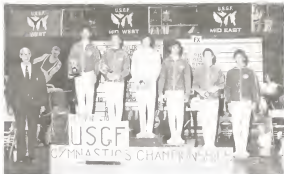
| Vaulting | | Score |
|----------|----------------|--------|
| 1. | John Crosby | 18.525 |
| 2. | Jim Stephenson | 18.075 |
| 3. | Mark Gusham | 17.775 |
| 4. | Jay Whelan | 17.65 |
| 5. | Tom Weeden | 17.625 |
| 6. | Mel 197 | 17.425 |



On Saturday evening before 3,500 people the exciting Finals were held. John Crosby continued his victories in Floor Exercise to win the Championship of the United States along with his Moscow victory and his South African Victory. Marshall Awerer easily won the Pommel Horse and Tom Weeden was the winner on the Rings. Crosby scored his 2nd victory by winning the Vaulting and Jim Ivack was superb on the Parallel Bars. Brent Simmons scored his 2nd victory on the Horizontal Bar to conclude a fine meet. The results of the Finals follow:

| Parallel Bars | | Score |
|---------------|-----------------|--------|
| 1. | Jim Ivack | 18.7 |
| 2. | Brent Simmons | 18.425 |
| 3. | Gene Whelan | 18.275 |
| 4. | Doug Fitzgerald | 18.175 |
| 5. | Mike Carter | 17.85 |
| 6. | Jay Whelan | 17.6 |

| Horizontal Bar | | Score |
|----------------|---------------|--------|
| 1. | Brent Simmons | 18.525 |
| 2. | Tom Weeden | 18.40 |
| 3. | Ted Merb | 18.25 |
| 4. | Gene Whelan | 18.2 |
| 5. | Jim Ivack | 17.90 |
| 6. | Jim Krust | 17.5 |



USGF 1974 ALL-AROUND CHAMPIONS

L. to R. Champions, John Crosby, 2nd, Jay Whelan, 3rd Tom Rhodes, 4th, Marshall Ayener, 5th Gene Whelan 6th Jan Ingle



The Golden Dozen Gymnasts in the United States who will compete for berths on the World Games Team

L. to R. Back Row: John Crosby, Jay Whelan, Tom Weeden, Marshall Ayener, Gene Whelan, Jan Ingle,
Rusty Mitchell, Coach World Games Team, Jan Stephenson, Mike Carter, Brent Simmons, Douglas Fitzgibbon,
Steve Panner, Rusty Ritter, Gene Wettstone, Manager World Games Team

"MOSCOW NEWS" AND "RIGA '74"

Each year the USSR conducts a gymnastics competition in Riga and invites the United States. It started as a small meet and has been advanced to a meet of great importance. Now at least 36 men and 40 Women are invited to make an ideal situation where 6 men are competing on each event at the same time (6 events x 6) and there are 2 rounds of 5 Women on each event (4 events x 5) 20 x 2 @ 40. In addition, this year, the "Moscow News" competition was held for the first time just prior to Riga '74. This also was the first year that they had invited 3 female and 3 male gymnasts. The Russians only pay transportation from Moscow to New York. The United States Gymnastics Federation must pay all domestic transportation, in addition to the New York Moscow transportation for a total cost of over \$6,500.00. The biggest stumbling block is the changing of dates by the Russians. Last year it was the 1st week in April, the prior year it was the end of April and this year March. The 2nd Qualification round for girls in Newark, Del. limited the athletes to those qualified already and the various conference meets for men limited selection also, however, the girls and boys that represented the United States were terrific.

It all started at the airport on March 20, in New York with Linda McHenry, the coach of the girls team of Nancy Thies, Debbie Fike, and Kyle Gayner together with Dr. Hal Frey, Coach of the boys, John Crosby and his brother Gary Morave was to have been the third boy and in his absence he placed was left vacant. The plane trip was fine with stops in Warsaw, Poland, Copenhagen and Amsterdam before landing in Moscow. We were met at the airport by Yuri Titov, a former great Russian gymnast, who is now the head of gymnastics in Russia, Mr. Nicolae Popov a retired Vice-President of FIG, and Mr. Arkov of the Russian Federation. The traditional bread and salt ceremony that is breaking of bread and eating some as a sign of friendship made us feel at home. There were other countries that arrived with us, Canada, France and Switzerland and we all took the bus to our hotel. We were assigned an interpreter who was to stay with us for the 8 days in Russia. The hotel Ukraina is not a new hotel and it is difficult to get an elevator and the lobby was being renovated and you wouldn't believe the people going in and out but we enjoyed our stay there.

After a nights sleep and breakfast a meeting was held to select competition times and rotation. They have an extremely fair method of selection, first the teams are picked out of a hat (which a little girl takes around and everyone get a chance to reach in the hat and then when all the teams are on the board, then a number is selected and the first team or combination teams get that number. If it were number 5 for men, it would mean starting on the 5th event which is the parallel bars and then rotate to the horizontal bar etc. The girls were the same except that they had 8 numbers and 1 to 4 denoted the four events starting with vaulting in the first group and 5 to 8 was the 2nd group @ 5 being the Vaulting etc. They also drew for the Female so that everything was set for the whole competition. The coaches attended the meeting and received competitors numbers and received the times for working out and bus times etc. The Finals drawing was to have five results for us in the Men's draw for as it evolved, the 2nd place finisher in the preliminaries was to go last in the Finals. The teams worked out according to the schedule at the gym site which was the Sports Palace with all the equipment on platforms and in a pleasant and well lit atmosphere.

The girls and the boys had a good workout under the direction of Linda and Hal, however, it is always difficult to get turned around tomorrow. There is an 11 hour difference between the west coast and Moscow and in the beginning the body has difficulty adapting to the change. It was also difficult for the gymnasts to adjust since they left on the 20th, arrived on the 21st, ate, trained on the 22nd and competed on the 23rd. On the 24th there was a little time for shopping and sightseeing. In a separate gym we saw many Russian girls working out, since our girls had to practice there while the men occupied the main arena. There appeared to be many young gymnasts that are very good. While we were there, Lushov Bogdanow, who toured the U.S. in '73 and is rated one of the top Russian gymnasts, injured himself and was unable to compete. She was doing a standing back to the bar on the Uneven bars except that she does it over the low bar, and she crashed and her thigh was badly lacerated and discolored. Her replacement, Abnerova, finished 4th in the All-Around and does a double back on the floor.



—Yuri Titov—

On behalf of the Russians upon thousands of Soviet gymnasts I greet the participants, judges and guests who have arrived for the International competition for the girls offered by Moscow News.

This tournament is the gymnasts first major meet in 1974, the last step towards the world championship in Varna. It will make possible to check how useful has been the work done by all athletes, what innovations they had infused in their programs and whether they are in good line. The competition will undoubtedly be very beautiful also for the coaches, who in the time remaining before the world championship, will be able to help their charges pick up individual elements in the exercises and eliminate inaccuracies and errors.

I wish all participants a successful performance.

Yuri Titov,
Vice President of
the International
Gymnastics Federation,
Chair of the
Gymnastics Department
of the Committee for
Physical Culture and Sports
under the USSR
Council of Ministers

'Moscow News'

Today is a sad-latter day for gymnasts. The girl and boy gymnasts—participants in the first competition for the prize offered by *Moscow News*—will parade in a wifely kaleidoscope of colours and in snow-white apparel.

A good many tournaments for prizes offered by newspapers are held in our country in ice hockey, swimming and athletics. Another—gymnastics—has now been added to them. Why did we, the *Moscow News* Editorial Board, pick gymnastics?

The word "gymnastics" originated in Ancient Hellas and it meant indulging in sports which made man strong in both spirit and body. Modern gymnastics is one of the most beautiful and, in recent times, a very popular sport. This is due, first of all, to the elegance and grace of the hair-raising cascades performed by gymnasts. They were applauded at the Olympic Games, at world and European championships and at other competitions. The spectator feels the same today when attending gymnastics competitions where he witnesses the great art and perfection of the human body, as when viewing the performance of a superb actor or a ballerina performing her intricate dance.

Gymnastics is always thrilling. We, sponsors of the first international competition for the *Moscow News* prize, are also thrilled at before a grand premiere and invite you, dear spectators, to enter the world dominated by grace, skill, elegance and courage.

Chief Judge of the tournament speaks

Yuriiy Belyakov, 1952 Olympic champion, Chief Judge, is to speak on the order and procedure of the competition.

"Teams composed of Soviet and foreign judges, will assess the competition results.

"All the judges have good prestige and adequate experience in both competitions and refereeing.

"Special equipment which had been tried out successfully during the Universiade, and won good repulse among foreign visitors and contestants, will be used for test counting and demonstration of points. The audience will see the number of points scored by the or that gymnast, preferably at once on the Palace's big screen. This is the first time we shall be using this equipment for such an important international competition as the one for the prize offered by *Moscow News*. The contestants will compete on excellent apparatuses and, I don't think, there will be any complaints on this score.

"As for the sporting aspect of the competition, it promotes stiff competition. I say this because of the representative field of contestants. Practically all the male challengers for the world title in Bulgaria will get together in Moscow. It is no secret that all experts regard this competition as an important stage in the preparations for the world championship. Let no one be misled by the competition being held only in the voluntary exercises, for it is here, that the boldest elements, which adorn every tournament, originate.

"We shall try to help all competitors, above all, by our objective judgement, display their skill to the best of their ability."



Lyudmila TURISHCHEVA, [USSR], overall 1970 world champion, 1971 and 1973 European champion, and champion of the 19th Olympic Games.

I am happy to greet all the participants in the competition for the prize offered by *Moscow News*.

One would wish there were more such contests and that they would be held more often, because that is very necessary for the sportmen so as to exchange skill and gain experience.


The competition in Luchok is the first gymnastics meet this year and I wish it to bring everyone the results they expect and to become a point of departure for the world championship.

I wish you all, friends, the best of success!

On Saturday, March 23rd at 3:00 p.m., our girls started the meet once they were in the first group and they worked well with Debbie Fife finishing 6th in the All Around. Kyle Geyner 8th and Nancy Thies 20th (Nancy was sluggish and was beginning to feel the effects of a virus that later came out in full bloom). Debbie made the Finals on Vaulting and Bars,

and Kyle was in the Finals on Bars and Floor. The girls are to be congratulated for a great meet. Goodbye, the winner of the All Around is a terrific gymnast but she missed her specialty on the Bars, a straddle support on the high bar forcing the low bar, circle backward, dismount legs and shoot to handstand (straddle for meet) immediately release grip and land in

a handstand on the low bar, as soon as you grasp the low bar, push off while doing a front turn up to the high bar landing in a hand I saw her try this many times and she had a poor percentage of completion. Sabas from Romania who toured the U.S. last year, won the vaulting with a roundoff back. Total results follow.

| Place | Nom, Prénom | N° | Pays |  | | | | Score totale |
|-------|-----------------|----|------|---|------|------|------|--------------|
| 1 | Grosdova S. | 10 | URS | 9,3 | 9,3 | 9,7 | 9,6 | 37,9 |
| 2 | Prisnak E | 12 | URS | 9,4 | 9,45 | 9,35 | 9,3 | 37,5 |
| 3 | Sandi E | 11 | URS | 9,3 | 8,35 | 9,5 | 9,7 | 36,85 |
| 4 | Ahramova E | 13 | URS | 9,25 | 9,25 | 9,25 | 8,9 | 36,65 |
| 5 | Ergewari M | 16 | HUN | 9,15 | 9,3 | 9,05 | 8,85 | 36,35 |
| 6 | Pike D | 6 | USA | 9,25 | 9,05 | 8,9 | 9,1 | 36,3 |
| 7 | Blagojevic M | 36 | BUL | 9,0 | 9,0 | 9,1 | 9,2 | 36,3 |
| 8 | Geyner K | 8 | USA | 9,1 | 8,85 | 9,05 | 9,25 | 36,25 |
| 9 | Bellak E | 14 | HUN | 9,15 | 9,0 | 9,05 | 9,0 | 36,2 |
| 10 | Trantow S | 3 | GDR | 9,0 | 8,8 | 9,0 | 9,25 | 36,05 |
| 11 | Müller E | 1 | GDR | 9,0 | 8,85 | 8,95 | 9,15 | 35,85 |
| 12 | Diechum J | 23 | CAN | 9,2 | 8,75 | 8,7 | 9,15 | 35,8 |
| 13 | Ritter K | 2 | GDR | 8,85 | 8,9 | 9,0 | 9,05 | 35,8 |
| 14 | Stoitchew N | 35 | BUL | 9,0 | 8,95 | 8,8 | 9,0 | 35,75 |
| 15 | McDonnell M | 22 | CAN | 9,0 | 8,9 | 8,85 | 8,75 | 35,7 |
| 16 | Deo Ya | 33 | PRK | 8,9 | 8,9 | 8,75 | 9,0 | 35,55 |
| 17 | Sabel P | 18 | ROM | 9,4 | 8,0 | 9,0 | 9,05 | 35,45 |
| 18 | Odene M | 37 | FRA | 9,2 | 8,8 | 8,6 | 8,8 | 35,4 |
| 19 | Kim Sin Gil | 34 | PRK | 9,15 | 8,9 | 8,2 | 9,0 | 35,25 |
| 20 | Theis M | 7 | USA | 9,1 | 8,9 | 9,0 | 8,85 | 35,25 |
| 21 | Di Eun Ok | 32 | PRK | 8,8 | 8,8 | 8,7 | 8,95 | 35,25 |
| 22 | Hayashida P | 24 | JPN | 9,1 | 8,05 | 8,8 | 9,2 | 35,15 |
| 23 | Shimonfi J | 17 | ROM | 9,0 | 8,35 | 9,0 | 8,8 | 35,15 |
| 24 | Yarvempaisa | 27 | FIN | 8,85 | 8,6 | 8,65 | 9,0 | 35,1 |
| 25 | Weis S | 15 | HUN | 9,1 | 8,0 | 8,75 | 9,15 | 35,0 |
| 26 | Stodalkova R | 29 | TCH | 9,15 | 7,8 | 8,5 | 9,3 | 34,75 |
| 27 | Jenkowicz A | 31 | POL | 9,05 | 7,7 | 8,9 | 9,0 | 34,65 |
| 28 | Ermane Pascale | 38 | FRA | 8,85 | 8,75 | 8,05 | 8,95 | 34,6 |
| 29 | Widaj E | 30 | POL | 8,9 | 8,8 | 7,8 | 9,0 | 34,5 |
| 30 | Sanchez A | 20 | CUB | 8,8 | 8,15 | 8,55 | 8,95 | 34,45 |
| 31 | Van Renswaten | 5 | NOL | 9,0 | 8,2 | 8,1 | 8,95 | 34,25 |
| 32 | Kikkawa C | 26 | JPN | 9,2 | 8,0 | 7,7 | 9,2 | 34,1 |
| 33 | Martinez O | 19 | CUB | 8,35 | 8,4 | 8,6 | 8,75 | 34,1 |
| 34 | Parkinson A | 39 | GDR | 8,65 | 8,25 | 7,95 | 9,05 | 33,9 |
| 35 | Stager C | 9 | SUI | 8,9 | 7,45 | 8,6 | 8,9 | 33,85 |
| 36 | Hernandez M | 21 | CUB | 8,8 | 7,35 | 8,5 | 9,0 | 33,6 |
| 37 | Rehusicova J | 28 | TCH | 9,05 | 6,45 | 8,9 | 9,05 | 33,45 |
| 38 | Wen den Vorst P | 4 | NOL | 8,55 | 7,85 | 8,55 | 8,4 | 33,35 |
| 39 | Ichinuro M | 25 | JPN | 8,8 | 6,7 | 8,3 | 9,3 | 33,1 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------|------|-------|--------------|----------|------|-------|
| 1 Sabai R | 9,4 | 9,4 | 18,8 | 1 Primak E | URS 9,45 | 9,45 | 18,9 |
| 2 Grosdown S | 9,3 | 9,3 | 18,6 | 2 Egerwari M | HUN 9,3 | 9,4 | 18,7 |
| 3 Saadi E | 9,5 | 9,25 | 18,55 | 3 Abramova E | URS 9,25 | 9,35 | 18,6 |
| 4 Primak E | 9,4 | 9,15 | 18,55 | 4 Grosdown S | URS 9,3 | 9,25 | 18,55 |
| 5 Pike D | 9,45 | 9,2 | 18,15 | 5 Blagova M | BUL 9,0 | 9,15 | 18,15 |
| 6 Dischan J | 9,1 | 9,15 | 18,15 | 6 Pike D | USA 9,05 | 9,05 | 18,1 |

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|----------|------|-------|----------------|----------|------|-------|
| 1 Saadi E | URS 9,50 | 9,65 | 19,15 | 1 Saadi E | URS 9,7 | 9,7 | 19,4 |
| 2 Grosdown S | URS 9,70 | 9,2 | 18,9 | 2 Grosdown S | URS 9,6 | 9,7 | 19,3 |
| 3 Primak E | URS 9,35 | 9,15 | 18,5 | 3 Primak E | URS 9,3 | 9,45 | 18,75 |
| 4 Gayner USA | 9,05 | 9,3 | 18,35 | 4 Stodulkova R | TCH 9,3 | 9,3 | 18,6 |
| 5 Egerwari M | HUN 9,05 | 9,25 | 18,3 | 5 Ishimura M | JPN 9,3 | 9,3 | 18,6 |
| 6 Blagova M | BUL 9,1 | 9,2 | 18,3 | 6 Gayner E | USA 9,25 | 9,25 | 18,5* |

The Men's Preliminary started at 8:40 p.m. on the 23rd with 48 gymnasts competing. Jim Smith had a good steady start and finished with 51.75. Jim needs better Pommel Horse and better Floor and Little more Flar. John Crosby finished with 54.00 which included an 8.50 on the Pommel Horse which was liberal. He also needs more Pommel Horse work, another part on the High Bar and more work on the rings. His Floor Ex. was excellent and because he was 2nd in the preliminaries, as a result of the draw, he went last to provide one of the most dramatic moments of the competition. Kisevka had already competed and had scored a 9.55 to go with his previous 9.56 for a total of 19.10. Since John had a 9.45 in the prelims, he needed a 9.70 to win. Blahovist Smolevsky of the USSR was head judge and the other 3 judges were Stefan Stomarov of Bulgaria, Vladimir Silin of USSR, and Hartmut Fink of Canada. The TV camera was grinding as John started his great exercise. John had everything and finished his double full to a stand amidst an ovation from the Russian crowd. The ovation was just dying down when the score a 9.70 was flashed. Another tremendous roar went

up and a smiling Crosby took his bow. It was a great thrill to see the American flag go up and to hear the Star Spangled Banner in such important International event. The judging was very far throughout the entire meet. The surprise of the competition was the poor meet the Japanese gymnasts had in comparison to their fine abilities.

FLOOR EXERCISE

| | |
|-----------------------|-------|
| 1. Crosby, USA | 19.15 |
| 2. Kisevka, USSR | 19.10 |
| 3. Silin, Sov | 18.80 |
| 4. Karanov, Bulgaria | 18.50 |
| 5. Takahara, Japan | 18.30 |
| 6. Kisevka, E. Ger. | 18.25 |
| POMMEL HORSE | |
| 7. Chomoguta, USSR | 18.75 |
| 8. Mikellien, R. USSR | 18.60 |
| 9. Thane, E. Ger. | 18.55 |
| 4. Richard, USA | 18.40 |
| 5. Karanov, Japan | 18.40 |
| 6. Kisevka, USSR | 18.30 |
| STILL RINGS | |
| 1. Chomoguta, USSR | 18.85 |
| 2. Mikellien, R. USSR | 18.80 |
| 3. Takahara, Japan | 18.65 |
| 4. Thane, E. Ger. | 18.50 |
| 5. Karanov, Japan | 18.50 |
| 6. Chomoguta, USSR | 18.45 |
| VULTIMO | |
| 7. Kisevka, USSR | 18.62 |
| 1. Silin, Japan | 18.42 |
| 3. Chomoguta, USSR | 18.30 |

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| ALL AROUND | |
| 1. Kisevka, USSR | 56.65 |
| 2. Chomoguta, USSR | 55.50 |
| 3. Thane, E. Ger. | 55.45 |
| 4. Takahara, Japan | 55.45 |
| 5. Mikellien, R. USSR | 54.75 |
| 6. Silin, Japan | 54.75 |
| 7. Chichoukine, USSR | 54.10 |
| 8. Crosby, USA | 54.00 |
| 9. Kim Son, N. Kor. | 53.50 |
| 10. Jevica, USA | 53.75 |
| 11. Kisevka, Hungary | 53.45 |
| 12. Kisevka, E. Ger. | 53.30 |
| 13. Stodulkova, Czech | 53.30 |
| 14. Crosby, E. Ger. | 53.15 |
| 15. Kim Si, N. Kor. | 52.40 |
| 16. Karanov, Bulgaria | 52.40 |
| 17. Thane, Czech | 52.40 |
| 18. Todorov, Bulgaria | 52.35 |
| 19. Bular, France | 52.30 |
| 20. Jevica, Romania | 51.45 |
| 21. Kisevka, Poland | 51.45 |
| 22. Kim, S. N. Kor. | 51.30 |
| PARALLEL BARS | |
| 1. Kisevka, USSR | 18.70 |
| 2. Thane, E. Ger. | 18.55 |
| 3. Chomoguta, USSR | 18.50 |
| 4. Kim Son Din, N. Kor. | 18.25 |
| 5. Takahara, Japan | 18.15 |
| 6. Silin, Japan | 17.10 |
| HORIZONTAL BAR | |
| 1. Karanov, Japan | 19.05 |
| 2. Thane, E. Ger. | 18.95 |
| 3. Takahara, Japan | 18.85 |
| 4. Boerle, France | 18.70 |
| 5. Chomoguta, USSR | 18.45 |
| 6. Crosby, USA | 18.95 |

Since the Finals of the competition were held at Noon on Sunday, the 24th the gymnasts had time to pack, have dinner and leave by bus for the train which was to take them to Riga. The train left at 8:35 p.m. and arrived at 10:30 a.m. Everyone had a box lunch and there were sandwiches, tea and other food on the train. The compartments have 2 upper and 2 lower berths and are comfortable. The train ride provided the opportunity of visiting with other gymnasts and was enjoyable. Riga proved to be an interesting city and the gymnasts were housed at a fine hotel facing the river and the rest of the city. Many famous land marks could be seen from their rooms. The food was also good as were the elevators. After lunch the instructional meetings were held and the draws conducted. The Girls and Boys worked out in the afternoon at the competition site. On Tuesday the Girls and Boys had workout periods scheduled. Nancy Thas who had shown marked signs of fever had to go to bed and a Russian doctor checked her and prescribed medicines and she did compete on Wednesday. The Men's competition was scheduled for 7:00 p.m. It appeared that the complex computer system was brought down from Moscow. Each judge worked his own machine. Becons were given to each judge in Moscow. During the exercise, the judges were free to use their own system of judging with pencil and paper or other, however, the machine had one button for G's, one button for B's and one button for deductions by tenths. A judge could use one finger for B's, of the left hand and one finger of the right hand for deductions. At the finish of the exercise the machine might look like this, 3C's, 5B's and 0.80 deduction. This was not recorded into the computer, this was only for the judge desiring to use it. The judge would then touch the buttons that was his score. (There was a key board with numbers 0 to 91 Press 8-9-0 and you would see 8.90 which could be corrected if you made a mistake by just pressing a button and repeating. The judge, after he was ready would then write the score on a little tab and then push a lever upwards, the score was now available to the head judge. The head judge could then see the 4 scores and the average would flash if he gave rates. Ok and pushed the button. There was also an immediate print out next to the Head Judge which went to the scoring room for printing. A very good system.

John Crosby again finished 8th in the All-Around with 58.60 (54.00 in Moscow) and he was only 0.40 out of 3rd

place, although he again had a poor Personal Horse exercise and weak rings. Jim Hisek also improved over Moscow to a 54.10 for 12th place, he faulted him at least 0.30. Again Crosby was to be cast in the same spot as in Moscow, since he was 2nd in the Prelims on the Floor and the draw again had the #2 man going last. This time John had a new opponent in Ma Marbhenko who starts with a double back with a full twist, had received a 9.55 to John's 9.50 and received a 9.60 in the Finals for a total of 19.15. Again John needed a 9.70 and again you could not see that, John was superb but his exercise was not due quite as well as in Moscow and the judges (the same judges) gave him a 9.55 for a 19.05 total and 2nd place. Again the U.S. flag went up as John received a silver medal. The Japanese gymnasts did much better in this competition as the results show.

On Wednesday at 6:30 the Girls competed in the Prelims. The Russians used 4 different girls from Moscow and also used a local Riga girl Nancy Thas competed despite a severely weakened condition and was 38th, she had great spirit just to compete. Kyle Gayer finished 4th in the All-Around behind 3 Russian girls and made the Finals on the Floor and Balance Beam while Debbie Fike was 7th in the All-around and made the Finals on Vaulting and Balance Beam. This was a fine showing by our girls. The Finals were very exciting, Debbie was 1st in Vaulting and 4th on the Beam. The Balance Beam was the most exciting event, in the prelims, Garbik had a 9.45, Kim had a 9.65, Savina had a 9.60 and Kyle Gayer had a 9.45. Kyle was as "cool as a cucumber" and "steady as a rock" in the "pressure cooker". The audience roared as she dismounted and the judges gave her a 9.66 for a total of 19.00 for 2nd place. Once more the U.S. flag was hoisted as the United States won their 2nd Silber medal. Kyle was also awarded a special prize for the "most unique style and unusual moves". Both of our teams performed well and acted like ladies and gentlemen both on the gym floor and off. Linda Metheny and Hal Frey did a fine job of coaching and also represented the United States well. They also brought back many films which will be of much interest. After the Finals, Nancy Thas, Debbie Fike and John Crosby were to head in one direction and the others left the next day by plane for Moscow and the following day for New York via Brussels. The Moscow Riga trip was highly successful and the Russians have extended an invitation to take part in 1975. Yuri Tiroy and both organizing committees did a fine job.

RIGA, RUSSIA

WOMEN'S COMPETITION

| ALL AROUND | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. N. Kuchinskaya, USSR | 56.25 |
| 2. Tsukahara, Japan | 56.10 |
| 3. Thas, S. Ger. | 55.30 |
| 4. Hideo, Japan | 55.20 |
| 5. Isoko, USSR | 55.05 |
| 6. Safonov, USSR | 55.00 |
| 7. Kim Sun Din, S. Kor. | 54.95 |
| 8. Crosby, USA | 54.90 |
| 9. Macaelan, USSR | 54.80 |
| 10. Gierke, Cuba | 54.60 |
| 11. Kosta, S. Ger. | 54.25 |
| 12. Sytska, USA | 54.10 |
| 13. Borcia, France | 54.05 |
| 14. Szarek, Hungary | 53.90 |
| 15. Gross, S. Ger. | 53.85 |
| 16. Kim, S. P., S. Kor. | 53.75 |
| 17. Kim, S. S. Kor. | 53.50 |
| 18. Chla, Czech | 53.00 |
| 19. Kim, S. S., S. Kor. | 52.90 |
| 20. Rodriguez, Cuba | 52.85 |
| 21. Cape, Romania | 52.16 |
| 22. Fedorov, Bulgaria | 52.05 |
| 23. Richard, Cuba | 51.70 |
| 24. Szivado, Hungary | 51.70 |
| 25. Tanczberger, Czech | 51.55 |

| FLOOR EXERCISE | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. N. Kuchinskaya, USSR | 19.15 |
| 2. Crosby, USA | 18.95 |
| 3. Hideo, Japan | 18.95 |
| 4. Safonov, USSR | 18.75 |
| 5. Isoko, USSR | 18.50 |
| 6. Tsukahara, Japan | 18.15 |
| POWERS, USSR | |
| 1. N. Kuchinskaya, USSR | 19.00 |
| 1. Kermotau, Japan | 18.90 |
| 3. Thas, S. Ger. | 18.50 |
| 4. Macaelan, J. USSR | 18.20 |
| 5. Hideo, Japan | 18.15 |
| 6. Tsukahara, Japan | 17.60 |

| STILL RINGS | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. Isoko, USSR | 19.10 |
| 2. Tsukahara, Japan | 18.90 |
| 3. Markhehiko, USSR | 18.80 |
| 4. Kim Sun Din, S. Kor. | 18.75 |
| 5. Kim, S. P., S. Kor. | 18.75 |
| 6. Macaelan, USSR | 18.30 |

| VAULTING | |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Gierke, Cuba | 18.75 |
| 2. Hideo, Japan | 18.65 |
| 3. Safonov, USSR | 18.50 |
| 4. Thas, Czech | 18.47 |
| 5. Wornick, Poland | 18.20 |

| PARALLEL BARS | |
|----------------------|-------|
| 1. Kermotau, Japan | 18.90 |
| 2. Tsukahara, Japan | 18.80 |
| 3. Thas, S. Ger. | 18.60 |
| 4. Isoko, USSR | 18.55 |
| 5. Kuchinskaya, USSR | 18.66 |

| SUPPORTS, BAR | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 1. Kuchinskaya, Japan | 19.15 |
| 2. Tsukahara, Japan | 19.15 |
| 3. Thas, S. Ger. | 18.95 |
| 4. Borcia, France | 18.75 |
| 5. Hideo, Japan | 18.60 |
| 6. Kim, S. P., S. Kor. | 18.35 |

Riga, Russia

Women's Competition

S.A. Cup 1974

In order to get to Amsterdam as per instructions from the South African Federation, we had to take a train from Riga to Leningrad. The train left at 10:45 on Thursday night after the competition in Riga. The South African Federation had insisted 2 girls and 1 man. The train arrived at 8:30 a.m. on Friday. We were accompanied by the same interpreter and again there was turmoil when we boarded the train but we were lucky to meet 4 of the men who had judged in Riga who lived in Leningrad and they graciously gave up their compartment for us. Upon our arrival in Leningrad, we were met by the same man from Leningrad, the Russian travel agency, and he escorted us to a waiting vehicle to take us to the airport. We finally said goodbye to our "Serge" who was now very familiar to us and was very helpful, and boarded our plane. The plane flew to Copenhagen and London where we boarded a plane for Amsterdam. We were to pick up our plane tickets and visas for Debbie Fike and Nancy Thies at Amsterdam and finally got the tickets but no visas. They finally let us on the plane because of a telegram we had and then followed one of the longest plane rides in the world. We stopped at Paris after leaving Amsterdam late and finally reached Johannesburg 1:00 p.m. on Saturday after 18 hours. The plane was packed, the seats were hard and deep was impossible. Upon landing we were paged by a man who told us that Nancy and Debbie could not get into the country without a visa. After much discussion, conferences etc. they were admitted on a temporary visa and then we were greeted by all our South African friends. Ole Areborn, President of the South African Union was there, J. C. Obets, H. Louw, Erich Vander Bank and many others. We were taken to our hotel for a much needed rest. The hotel was fine and a first look at South Africa, Johannesburg that is, is much like the United States. They held their competition that evening to determine who would compete in the Cup for both men and women, from South Africa.

The gymnasts had a daily training schedule woven around the social and sightseeing activities. They were taken to the Krugersdorp Game reserve, to dinners and movies and receptions. The week was cold and rainy which was unusual since this is the beginning of autumn in South

Africa and the weather is generally warm and clear. Mr. Comiskey had been designated by Mr. Isaacovich to give the South Africans an International Judges Course and serve as Superior Judge at the competition.

The competition started on Friday evening with 3 events for men and 2 events for women. John Croley won the first event, Floor Exercise with a 9.80 with another tremendous performance, and won the Rings for two gold medals. Debbie Fike won the Vaulting and the Uneven Bars and Nancy Thies was 2nd in Vaulting. On Saturday evening, John Croley was 2nd on Vaulting, 1st on 2nd on the P. Bars and 1st on the High Bar and won the All-around with a total of 56.15 over a strong field. This marked the first time an American won the South African Cup. Debbie Fike came on strong to win the Balance Beam with Nancy 2nd and Nancy won the floor exercise with Debbie 3rd and Debbie won the All-around and the South African Cup. She joins the following South African Cup winners from the United States: Cathy Rogy 1971, Joan Moore 1972, Roxanne Pierce 1973 and now Debbie Fike 1974. There was a fine reception after the competition and on Sunday the ten men and Ole Areborn had everyone to his house for a barbecue, swimming and badminton and then away to the airport for a 12,000 mile trip home. Debbie, Nancy and John performed well and were fine representatives of the United States.

Yrour 1970:

1. B. Doernika — Wes-Deutschland
2. M. de Wet — Suid-Afrika
3. S. Klein — Wes-Deutschland

1971:

Yrour:

1. C. Rigby — V.S.A.
2. K. Fritsch — Switzerland
2. M. de Wet — Suid-Afrika

1972:

Yrour:

1. J. Moore — V.S.A.
2. P. Bazz — Switzerland
3. A. van Gerwen — Nederland

1973:

Yrour:

1. R. Pierce — V.S.A.
2. A. Mayer — Wes-Deutschland
3. S. Serfentstein — Suid-Afrika



O. AREBORN

(PRESIDENT S.A.A.G.U.)

Moos:

1. A. Storhaug — Noorwe
2. D. Thor — V.S.A.
3. M. Bruckwiler — Switzerland

Moos:

1. G. Gaebele — Frankryk
2. R. Hurnseder — Switzerland
3. F. Stander — Suid-Afrika




Moos:

1. P. Rehner — Switzerland
2. J. Croley — V.S.A.
3. W. Missinger — Wes-Deutschland






Moos:

1. E. Göttinger
2. M. Nissenen — Finland
3. J. Stephenson — V.S.A.

WOMEN - FROUE

| |  |  | Tot 1+3 |  | Tot 1+2+3 |  | Gross Tonnell | Rank |
|----------------------------|---|---|------------|---|--------------|---|------------------|------|
| Nancy Thues (USA) | 8.10 | 8.15 | | 8.55 | | 9.15 | 34.05 | 3 |
| Anita Van Nieuwkerk (S.A.) | 8.40 | 8.60 | INJURY | | | | | |
| Elaine Willeit (Gt. B.) | 8.20 | 8.65 | | 8.05 | | 8.85 | 32.45 | 7 |
| Debbie Bingham (S.A.) | 8.65 | 8.20 | | 8.45 | | 8.60 | 33.90 | 4 |
| Christine Steger (Swiss) | 8.95 | 7.95 | | 7.50 | | 8.80 | 33.20 | 6 |
| Debbie Fike (USA) | 9.20 | 8.40 | | 8.80 | | 9.00 | 36.40 | 1 |
| Suzanne Serfontein (S.A.) | 9.05 | 8.70 | | 8.45 | | 9.10 | 35.30 | 2 |
| Catherine Dauge (Fr.) | 8.50 | 8.60 | | 7.85 | | 8.40 | 33.35 | 5 |

MEN - MANS

| |  |  | Tot 1+3 |  | Tot 1+2+3 |  | Tonnell 1+2+2+4 |  | Gross Tonnell | Rank |
|--------------------------|---|---|------------|---|--------------|---|--------------------|---|------------------|------|
| Henri Boeris (FR.) | 8.50 | 8.5 | | 9.00 | | 9.00 | 9.35 | 9.70 | 34.40 | 4 |
| Francois Stander (S.A.) | 7.80 | 8.25 | | 8.95 | | 8.65 | 9.20 | 9.05 | 52.90 | 6 |
| Ole Benediktsson (Den) | 8.10 | 8.65 | | 8.40 | | 8.60 | 9.45 | 9.40 | 53.20 | 5 |
| Robert Bretscher (Swiss) | 9.10 | 8.20 | | 9.15 | | 9.65 | 9.15 | 9.30 | 54.30 | 3 |
| Nico Fowler (S.A.) | 8.25 | 8.55 | | 8.35 | | 8.95 | 8.40 | 7.30 | 47.60 | 7 |
| John Crosby (USA) | 9.80 | 7.75 | | 9.20 | | 9.40 | 9.45 | 9.55 | 56.15 | 1 |
| Masao Niisainen (Fin.) | 8.90 | 8.40 | | 9.00 | | 8.85 | 9.50 | 9.55 | 55.85 | 2 |



Crosby, Thues, Fike, Bretscher



Crosby receives his gold medal from Mr. Arnsborn

Cover John Crosby & Debbie Fike -
South African Cup Champions

CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN GAMES REPORT

By Jim Brown — Gymnastics Coach University of Indiana

by Jim Brown — Gymnastics Coach
University of Indiana

The twelfth Central American and Caribbean Games were held in Santo Domingo during the period from February 27 through March 11, 1974. Benny and Landy Fernandez, two Indiana University gymnasts, were selected to represent Puerto Rico in the Games and I was invited to accompany them as the national coach.

On Sunday, 3 March, following the conclusion of the Big Ten Conference Meet at the University of Iowa, Benny, Landy, and I flew from Cedar Rapids to San Juan, Puerto Rico. We stayed one night in San Juan and the following day joined the gymnastics envoy and flew to Santo Domingo in the Dominican Republic, where we had a day and a half of practice before the beginning of the men's events. So much happened during the next five days that it is difficult to know exactly where to begin, so I will make a few observations about the Games, and proceed from there.

Facilities

The Olympic Village (with deportivo) which housed the athletes and coaches for the Games is located some five miles from the site of the gymnastics competition. This did cause some minor transportation problems; however, most of Santo Domingo's city buses were borrowed for the Games, and in spite of the distance from the village to the competition site, a one way trip was usually no more than twenty minutes.

The village is a future federal housing project, and when it is finished, even by American standards, it will be a good one. Unfortunately, during the time of the Games it was not finished. One official noted that the Games were just a month too early. As a result, the athletes and coaches became refreshingly accustomed to shivering in cold water and a daily journey behind the housing units for a hot shower!

Two huge cafeterias served virtually around the clock, and although there was some complaints, in general, we felt that the food was quite good. The fresh fruits, juices, and fruit salads were especially good.

The facility for the gymnastics competition was a large semi-enclosed and semi-completed structure. Although

workers were completing the enclosure during the Games, we found it to be more than adequate. The spectators did not seem to mind the temporary board seats, and the gymnasts loved the boarded floors which acted like a spring board for tumbling. Locker facilities were good and the Dominican hosts were generous in the allotment of time for practice.

Competition

It did not take long to realize that the Cuban team was the class of the competition. This was the case overall in most sports, but it was especially true in gymnastics. In fact, of the thirty-six medals that were awarded in men's and women's gymnastics, thirty-five went to the Cubans. The one remaining medal, a second place finish in rings, went to Benny Fernandez of Puerto Rico. The Mexican women had several finalists, but not finished in the top three places. Benny Fernandez was the only finalist in the men's events who was not Cuban (Landy Fernandez finished in a tie for sixth but did not advance to the finals because his all-around score was lower than the Cuban with whom he was tied).

Compulsories

We were impressed with the finesse with which the Cubans performed the compulsories. It was obvious that they had spent much time and were well prepared for this phase of the competition. Also impressive, for another reason, was the performance of the Dominican Team. Although the Dominican Team only placed fourth overall, they showed the potential to become contenders. Their national program began only a year ago under the direction of Lavonne Johnson (from Bingham Young), and their progress in that year is amazing. It was apparent that Johnson had approached the task of building a national program around mastery of the compulsories, and then building optionals from the stunts and combinations incorporated into the compulsories. It was an efficient way of doing so and the Dominicans are to be congratulated on a job well done!

At the conclusion of the compulsories, Cuba held a commanding lead. They were followed by Columbia, Venezuela, and then the Dominican Republic. The

Cubans were first through sixth in the all-around competition. Alejandro Mestry from Venezuela and Carlos Agui from Columbia were seventh and eight, respectively. At the end of the compulsories, Benny Fernandez was thirteenth in the all-around, and Landy, who had been very sick, held the eighteenth place.

Judging

It may seem anachronistic to discuss judging between the compulsories and optionals, but it is difficult to go further without making mention of this most important but frustrating part of the competition.

If there is one thing that all concerned with the Games should have learned, it is the value of providing neutral judges. Unfortunately, this is a lesson that was learned in retrospect. I first began to be concerned about the judging when I learned that over one-half of all the judges came from Cuba, and my concern continued to grow when Benny Fernandez did a 9.70 rings compulsory with straight arm work throughout and received a 9.0. My concern continued to grow as the first Cuban performer on the rings also received a 9.0, and the scores continued to go up with each Cuban performer, leaving Benny tied for sixth in rings at the end of the compulsories. This is not to say that the Cubans did not deserve the compulsory scores that they got on the rings. Their rings, like their other events, were good, but in rings, they were not in the same class with Benny Fernandez. As it happened, two of the judges in rings were from Cuba.

It was unfortunate that Benny Fernandez was so very under-scored in rings, for it was apparent to all of the participants and spectators that the Cuban gymnasts outclassed all others and had no competition for medals, with the exception of the Fernandez brothers on rings and Landy Fernandez on the parallel bars. As it worked out, Benny Fernandez led off the compulsories in parallel bars with an excellent 8.8, Landy followed with a routine that was four to five tenths better, and for his effort, received a 7.95. The head judge (Cuban) stated that his arms were not bent enough on the bent arm press, and as a result,

deducted the value of the start. This was even too much for the crowd to take and they delayed the meet with fifteen minutes of yawn! After this, the two little Puerto Ricans became the crowd favorites for the remainder of the competition — I

got even more gray hair, and the FIG representative (Frank Baré) consulted the judges in question for one-half hour following the compulsory compulsions.

OPTIONALS

At the completion of the compulsory session, the Cuban Team (both men and women) were so far ahead of the others, that the remainder of the meet for the most part was an intra-squad meet to determine the order of finish.

Throughout the week in floor exercise practice, the Cubans displayed extraordinary tumbling ability, with three of six competitors doing very high double back. However, in the optional routines, while their tumbling was just short of fantastic, in general, most had bobbles with the same connective moves. This could have been the result of being so far ahead that there was no pressure to perform at a top level.

The Columbians and Venezuelans also performed well in Floor Exercise, but they did not have the difficulty to compete with the Cubans.

In the pommel horse optional competition, Benny Fernandez performed well and earned an 8.80. The Cubans were impressive in practice with high circles, a lot of behind the back work, and good amplitude on the inside work.

Several of the Columbians and Venezuelans also performed well (middle eight) on pommel horse, but were so far behind after compulsories that they had no chance for a medal. Considering their one year background, the Dominicans also did well in the pommel horse compulsories.

A reverse order of placement in the compulsories was used to determine order in the optionals so Landy Fernandez was first up in the rings optional exercises. He did a nice set and received a 9.2, which we felt was about right. Benny Fernandez followed with a lackluster set and also received a 9.2. The Cubans scores in this event started with an 8.80 and finished with a 9.26 for Cuervo. We were satisfied with the scoring and believed that the half hour judges' conference, following the compulsories, must have had a positive effect on the scoring.

Long horse vaulting was an exciting event and the Cubans dazzled the crowd

with triple asterisk vaults. It was the best vaulting that I have ever seen, and I personally felt that the Cubans were considerably underseored. We were mildly disappointed that Cuervo did not throw his "Cuervo" (barre in, full out from the neck), which he did at the World University Games in winning the vaulting.

For one who had watched the Cuban Team warm up on parallel bars, the optional competition must have been a disappointment. During the practice all of the Cuban gymnasts demonstrated excellent technique and form in "C" value swing pairs (start hands, back to hands, Diamidovs, etc.), but all of the Cuban routines in the optionals were marred by frequent form breaks and a general looseness which could well have come from a distinct lack to competition. Cubans captured the first six places, but the Columbians impressed us with their less difficult but more polished performances. The one lad from Guatemala (Franco) also did a nice set, which was unfortunately constructed with an extra swing. Otherwise, he might have had a shot at the finals. Landy Fernandez also did a commendable job, however, his effort was in vain due to a low compulsory score.

If vaulting was the best event for the Cubans, horizontal bar had to be a close second. Cuervo and Richards were simply beautiful to watch, and although Cuervo did not use his triple flyaway, his double left no doubt that a triple was well within his ability. All of the Cubans dismounted with doubles or twisting flyaways.

Final Competition

As was mentioned earlier, the finals resembled an intersquad meet for the Cuban Teams. Benny Fernandez was the only non-Cuban in the Men's finals, and two of the Mexican girls made the women's finals.

The first Cuban gymnast on the uneven bars was grossly overseored with a 9.30, and this set the stage for one of the most dramatic incidents of the entire games. She was followed by the one Mexican finalist who performed brilliantly and was awarded a score of 9.00. Even the most uninformed member of the packed crowd knew that something was wrong, and the demonstration that followed was something that an American could only imagine happening at a professional wrestling match. After fifteen minutes of booring the judges, stamping the floor, and chanting "Me-ho-co" (followed by three distinct cleaves), the meet directors decided to continue the meet. The booring

and jeering continued for the next two events without let up, and this was unfortunate for it caused poor performances on the beam (with three Cubans failing off), and a sub standard performance overall. The Mexican girl who made the finals on the beam was warmly received and perhaps slightly overseored in that event.

The finals in the men's events were a rebath of the preliminary optionals. In floor exercise, the Cuban Team showed tremendous difficulty but did not execute well. Benny Fernandez was the final in rings, but finished second in the event. The Cubans fought among themselves in the other events to determine medal winners.

COACHING POSITION AVAILABLE:

Marlborough School, one of the finest girls' schools in the world (grades 7th through 12th, located in the heart of Los Angeles) is looking for an outstanding female gymnastics coach.

All interested applicants should contact:

Mr. Robert Chumbook, Headmaster
MARLBOROUGH SCHOOL
260 South Rosemore
Los Angeles, CA 90094

GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON, D.C. FIG NATIONAL COURSE August 10, 11, 12, 13, 1974

Instructors:

Mrs. Fie, Mrs. Weaver, Ms. Sharon Valley
Open to all USGF/OWGW
Nat. Ret. Officials
They will be contacted.

Vivian French has been appointed by the USGF, to the position of Certification Coordinator of the Women's Gymnastics Certification Committee: USGF-DGWS

Please change your records to effect this change and direct reports and correspondence to: Vivian French, Room 1 Box 245, Forest Grove, Oregon 97116

FOUR WOMEN, SIX MEN NAMED TO GYMNASTICS HALL OF FAME, 1974

WOMEN'S ELITE QUALIFYING SCORES

Four women - META NEUMANN ELSTE, CLARA SCHROTH LOMADY, HELEN SCHIFFANO SJURSEN, ENNA WACHTELL - and six men - WALTER J. UENERT, BILL MEADE, TONY ROSSI, HENRY SCHIGET, PAUL URAM, HERBERT VOGEL - were today cited in the Citizens Savings Hall Gymnastics Hall of Fame, in the result of 1974 elections.

Meade, Rossi and Uram were named in recognition of their noteworthy contributions to Men's Gymnastics, while

Luenert, Elste, Lomady, Spanen, Wachtel, Schiget and Vogel were honored either for their achievements in, or contributions to Women's Gymnastics.

The Gymnastics Hall of Fame was opened to Women this year with the admission of 3 members of the 1948 Olympic Team among their other achievements and Enna Wachtel, gymnast, judge, coach and all-around asset to gymnastics for many years. All of the men selected are well deserving, and are still working hard for gymnastics.

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| 1. D. Dunbar | 74.55 |
| 2. J. Anderson | 74.20 |
| 3. K. Howard | 73.80 |
| 4. D. Pike | 73.45 |
| 5. R. Pierce | 73.15 |
| 6. A. Carr | 73.10 |
| 7. J. Moore Rice | 73.05 |
| 8. B. Myslak | 72.80 |
| 9. D. Hill | 72.35 |
| 10. L. Govin | 72.30 |
| 11. K. Gayner | 72.20 |
| 12. J. Yeom | 71.80 |
| 13. N. Thies | 71.55 |
| 14. D. Cleashire | 71.50 |
| 15. C. Dowaliby | 71.40 |
| 16. D. Payton | 71.15 |
| 16. D. Halle | 71.15 |
| 18. D. Walker | 71.10 |
| 19. S. Archer | 71.00 |
| 20. S. Cantwell | 70.95 |
| 21. C. Israel | 70.90 |
| 22. L. Anderson | 70.80 |
| 23. S. Phillips | 70.55 |
| 23. C. Shotwell | 70.55 |
| 23. S. Gross | 70.55 |
| 25. C. Diamond | 70.50 |
| 27. D. England | 70.45 |
| 28. P. Spira | 70.40 |
| 29. R. Bleamer | 70.25 |
| 30. L. Cain | 70.10 |
| 30. P. Litowsky | 70.10 |
| 32. C. Fizeil | 70.05 |

GIVEN THE SAVINGS HALL GYMNASIUM HALL OF FAME MEMBERS, TO DATE

M.E.M.

GYMNASIUM

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Raymond Bass | George Guleak | Frank Kris |
| Dallas Hiler | Frank Heubold | John Heis |
| Frank Gumbel | Alfred Jochin | Frederick Meyer |
| William Denton | Paul Kropfel | Chester Phillips |
| Joseph Giallenbardos | Arthur Piss | Herbert Hite |
| | Orville Kesterson | Holand Wells |
| | George Whelker | |

CONTRIBUTORS

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Vincent D'Antonio | Gus Kern | Adolph Ficker |
| Robert Dumas | Walter J. Lianer | Tony Rossi |
| E. A. McKend | Abe Leber | Henry Schroeder |
| Paul E. Pinn | William Rathel | Ted Stevens |
| Harold Frey | Bill Meade | George Jappala |
| Eric Haglund | George P. Nissen | Paul Wren |
| Bruce Johnke | A. Carl Petersen | Herbert Vogel |

COACHES

| | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Alfred Bergmann | Louis H. Mang | Henry Schigot |
| Marshall Brown | Ray E. Moore | Henry Smith |
| Charles W. Gr. von | Harry G. Nelson | John Van Aalten |
| Lester Griffith | Ralph A. Piger | Charles Werra |
| Gustav Heilmann | Charles Pond | Bruce Volze |
| Daniel Haffner | Geik Treise | Lyle Welser |
| Leslie J. Judd | Ben Price | Gene Wettstrom |
| Herm J. Kern | Harley Price | Max Younger |
| Paul Loken | James Rozamus | Fred Little |
| Tom Maloney | | Leopold Seary |

WOMEN

CONTRIBUTORS

Helen Schiffano Sjursen
Enna Wachtel

GYMNASIUM

Meta Neumann Elste
Clara Schroth Lomady

* Also cited as Gymnast

** Also cited as Coach

NUMBERS ARE FUNNY

Here's a mathematical award you may find amusing. We've given 10,000 Mulphs to by any number from 1 through 9.

Then multiply that answer by 7. Vada! You get a whole string of numbers just like the one you picked from 1 through 9.



You've Got To Have Good Hands!

Why? Because it takes skilled, strong hands to be a successful gymnast, and the same is true about the hands that make American gymnastic equipment.

Like a top gymnast, American is always striving to get better, so send today for our free catalog and let us bring out the best in you.



**American Athletic
Equipment**

P.O. Box 111, Jefferson, Iowa 50129



U.S. OLYMPIC MEN'S GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE

L. to R. Back Row: John Hinds, Bert Lark, Jim McHugh, Director of Operations, USDC, David Howlands, Bill Cocco, Abe Grossfeld, Frank Caniskey, Bill Roetzheim, Jack Beckner, Courtney Shanken.
Front Row: Hal Frey, Karl Schweszlner, Secretary, Bill Meade, Chairman, Gene Wettstone, Asst. Chairman, Tom Maloney and Ed Egner.



Judges for the USGF - Championships of the USA - Appointed by the National Gymnastics Judges Association
L. to R. Steve Southwell, Don Alka, Sandy Cutler, John Draghi, Jerry Wright, Bob Stout, Sam Sargent, Bill Roetzheim.



1974 USGF TEAM CHAMPIONS - EAST REGION



1974 TEAM 2ND PLACE - MID-WEST REGION

National **USGF** Junior Olympic Championships

AUGUST 24, 1974.

THE NATIONAL USGF JUNIOR OLYMPIC GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR BOYS WILL BE HELD AT THE NATIONAL TURNER CAMP (on the Fox river) IN ALGONQUIN, ILLINOIS, ON AUGUST 24, 1974. THE BOYS MAY ARRIVE ON AUGUST 23RD, COMPETITION ON THE 24TH (20th if weather causes delay)

THE FIRST THREE PLACE WINNERS IN THE 12-14 and 15-18 AGE GROUPS in the REGIONALS WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE IN THE USGF JUNIOR OLYMPIC NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS. IN AREAS THAT DO NOT CONDUCT REGIONALS, APPLICATION MAY BE MADE TO ENTER THROUGH THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR. 12-14 AGE GROUP WILL PERFORM THE USGF INTERMEDIATE COMPULSORIES AND OPTIONALS, 15-18 AGE GROUP WILL PERFORM THE USGF ADVANCED COMPULSORIES AND OPTIONALS.

THE CHAMPION IN EACH OF THE TWO AGE GROUPS WILL TRAVEL TO MUNICH (expense free) WITH THE MEN'S WORLD GAMES TEAM WHICH WILL REPRESENT THE UNITED STATES. THE USGF WILL THEREFORE PROVIDE THE PERFECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JUNIOR OLYMPIC AND OLYMPIC PROGRAMS.

MR. PAUL FINA WILL BE THE MEET DIRECTOR AND ALL CORRESPONDENCE AND ENTRIES SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO HIM AT 22 SCOTTSWOOD ROAD, RIVERSIDE, ILLINOIS 60546

ORIGINAL REUTHER PRODUCTS!

BALANCE BEAM

A one inch layer of specially formulated cushioning material is laminated into the beam to give greater security and protection during long hours of training.

DESIGNED FOR INCREASED SAFETY
AND PROTECTION FOR GYMNASTS

'MUNICH MODEL'

ORIGINAL REUTHER BOARD

BUILT TO MEET NEW FIG SPECIFICATIONS GIVING GREATER LIFT

Enlarged action allows over 100 lbs. - pushing and the release of supporting legs.

"QUALITY IS A LIFETIME PARTNER"

OLYMPIC SPIETH ANDERSON

OLYMPIC - SPIETH - ANDERSON LTD.

P.O. BOX 46 ORILLIA, ONTARIO, CANADA

Phone: 765-025/3048

DEALER ENQUIRIES INVITED

NAME: _____

ORILLIA, ONTARIO, CANADA
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, U.S.A.

ZWICKEL



A Distinctive Line
of Men's and
Women's Uniforms



Why Settle for less?
FREE CATALOG

ZWICKEL

Gymnastic
Tailors

P.O. Box 309
Jenkintown, Pa. 19046

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 18-19

Modern Rhythmic Gymnastics Clinic
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
Instructor Mde., Kerta Cerna of
Czechoslovakia, Hunter College, 695
Park Ave. N.Y. City

May 26

USGF NATIONAL Modern Rhythmic
Championship, Morton West High
School, 2430 Horse Ave., Berwyn, LL
1:30 p.m., Mildred Pichall, 2419
Seville, Berwyn, LL 60402.

May 30, 31-June 1

USGF Elite - Southern Illinois
University, Women.

May 31, June 1,2, 1974

Second Annual Southwestern Regional
Gymnastics Workshop & Clinic,
University of California at Riverside,
Riverside, California.
For info: contact:
Mr. Tom Edison
Riverside County Schools Office
P.O. Box 988
Riverside, Calif.

June 4-10

Bulgarian Cup "Zlata puzetel"
(Golden Sands Invitational)

June 15-16

3rd International Cup, Antibes, France
(Women only)

August 16-26

All Japan Junior Girls' Championships

Sept. 27-28

Women's World Game Trials, Long
Beach, Cal

October 20-27

World Games - Munich, Germany,
USGF Tour information available.
Write to BSA Travel Agency, P.O. Box
406 Carbondale, IL 62901.

November 8,9, 10

USGF Congress, Chicago, IL.

November 27-Dec. 8

Church Cup, Nagoya, Japan

THE POLISH MEN'S NATIONAL GYMNASTICS TEAM TOUR

In the last issue, April, of the USSR NEWS there appeared a detailed report of the competition which the Poles won 270.30 to 275.00. During their stay in Chicago the Poles saw many of the famous sites in Chicago including the World's highest building the Sears Tower, the Post Office with 34,000 employees under one roof, the Picasso statue, the statue of Copernicus the famous Polish Astronomer and Lake Michigan. Chicago from the lakeside is a sight to behold and the Poles were impressed. They worked out at the University of Illinois, Circle Campus which is right in Chicago and has very unusual buildings. Bill Rontzheim was their host coach at the University. Bill was a great gymnast and was a member of two Olympic Teams for the United States. Bill was also the Coach during the match (ask him what happened on the Horizontal Bar). The Polish Falcon Club of Cicero, Illinois hosted the Poles to a fine reception and dinner and made them feel at home for their first stop. Tied Muszycki, Executive Director of the National Gymnastics Judges Association, acted as interpreter, judge for the U.S.A. and host along with Frank Walsh, President of the Illinois High School Coaches Association. The Poles also had time to shop on the morning following the competition and then they left for Lansing, Michigan.

They arrived in Lansing at 10:30 on the 18th of February and were greeted by George Seypala, the Coach at the University of Michigan State. George speaks Polish very well and was a gracious host. The Poles worked out in the University gymnasium in the afternoon and in the evening they were guests for dinner at the University Club. On Tuesday, George took the Poles sightseeing around the campus. Michigan State is the 4th largest University in the United States. The competition that evening was held in Jenson Fieldhouse with George Seypala as Coach. Since this was an exhibition match the high four counted on each event and the American team used some specialists like Charlie Morse, a former Michigan State great, however, Brent Simmons, Jim Stephenson, Bernie Van We and Randy Balhorn competed all-around. The final score was Poland 210.00 - USA 217.05. Andrew Sojma who scored a 57.35 in Chicago had another good meet with a 56.50. Mr. Muszycki acted as Superior Judge for the four working judges, Mr. Karsawski of Poland, Mr. Burski, Mr.

Mikolaj and Mr. Orlisky of the USA. The Poles really enjoyed the hospitality thru George at Michigan State.

The Poles left East Lansing at 12:15 for Chicago and changed planes for Tulsa, Oklahoma. They arrived in Tulsa at 4:45 and were greeted with television cameras and over 100 people. The Poles were astounded by such a reception. Many people had read about their arrival including two Polish priests. That evening they were taken to a fine banquet where they were treated to the singing of the Memorial High School Singers and received many gifts. Mr. Karsawski was made an Indian chief as they put an Indian headdress on him. I can just see him now in Warsaw in full regalia. The arrival was shown on TV at 10:15 and the Poles loved it. On Thursday Art Allen, Coach at Oral Roberts University and Steve Wallace, President of the rebels took the Poles to the Gilcrease Indian Museum and then to Oral Roberts University, both were very impressive. They were taken to the Fairgrounds. Pavilion Mrs. Beatrice Lowe, Supervisor, Public Schools welcomed the Poles and introduced Mayor La Fortune, his welcome printed here. The competition

was well received with 'Vernie Edwards' Girls team performing and the University of Oklahoma Team under the direction of Paul Zart competing against the Poles. Since this was an exhibition match only 4 Men competed for each side with the high three to count. Poland won the competition but the University of Oklahoma performed very well to the delight of the crowd. A fine reception followed for all the gymnasts.

On Friday morning the Poles left Tulsa for Dallas and arrived at 9:00 a.m. The crowd at the airport was even greater than at Tulsa. The Mayor of Hurst Texas Mr. B. J. Hampton, Principal Sales of L.D. Bell High School, Bill Barr, State Senator, Jim Sarney, Pres. Chamber of Congress, Emil Milam, Pres. Texas High School Gym. Coaches Ass'n. and many more were in the welcoming party. The Poles were given fine Western Hats at the airport among much hilarity and speeches. It was a very impressive reception and after checking into the hotel they were taken to the Justin Scott Co. for a fitting. They later received wallets with their initials engraved and western belts with spurs. They were then taken to the Bell Helicopter Co. for



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

ARMED & DANGEROUS

To the members of the Polish Olympic Team:

It is an honor for Tulsa to be included in the visit of the Polish Olympic Team to the United States. The United States of America has a long history of friendly relations with this old, strong & free neighboring nation. We all Polish descent and many citizens of Polish background in the United States of America in your country's independence 100 years ago.

Attendance provides a means by which our citizens and visitors can compete in a friendly environment. Such competitions, as well as the personal friendships which are made between citizens of our neighboring nations during these visits, has a lasting value in strengthening trade between our two countries.

*I wish each of you a pleasant visit here in Tulsa and hope that you will return to your country with the feeling that you have been among good friends during your visit.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Fortune

Robert L. Fortune
Mayor

ENCL.



Left to Right, Coach H. Giese, M. Kubica, W. Marek, W. Kubica, M. Szozka, Andzej Smyka. All photos of the Polish and Czechoslovakian team courtesy of J. Richard McGraw, So. Connecticut State College.

lunch and a tour of the plant which they found very interesting. The energy crisis canceled a helicopter flight for them. They then went to the gym for a light workout and in the evening they had a banquet and a Western Band was enjoyed. On Saturday they went shopping in the morning, toured Ft. Worth after lunch and enjoyed a light meal at Mrs. Widom's before the exhibition. The exhibition was a huge success played before a packed house. Gifts were handed out by Miss Fort Worth. All morning and afternoon on Sunday was spent sightseeing at the Ft. Worth Museum of Science and History, General Dynamics and the Stock Yards. In the evening the Sobols of Ft. Worth had the Poles in dinner and dance guests, delightful social evening. On

Monday, Feb. 25th, on the way to the airport, the Poles visited the sight of John Kennedy's assassination, downtown Dallas, and departed at 12:55 p.m. for Baltimore, Maryland.

They were greeted at the airport by Frank Yappi and Norman Boardman who were the hosts. Frank is Gym Coach at Dulany High School and Norm was a gymnast at Temple University.

On Wednesday evening at Dulany High School in Timonium, Maryland, the Polish Olympic Team electrified the audience with their dazzling gymnastic feats. The rots and aahs of the crowd were heard throughout the entire evening as the various team members went through their routines.

Along with the Poles, the U.S. Naval

Academy gymnastic team also turned in some outstanding performances and proved once again that they can always be depended upon to lend that extra bit of competition of this nature.

U.S. National Women's Champions, Joan Moore-Rice, Ann Carpenter and Shelly Bier pleased the crowd with their performance and Stormy Eaton, the 1972 National Trampoline Champion gave instructional and daring routines on the trampoline, assisted by several U.S. Navy Midshipmen.

All in all it was a fine evening of gymnastics and the audience gave all of the performers a 5 minute standing ovation at the conclusion of the show.

That evening climaxed a very busy two day visit which the Polish team made to

the Greater Washington area. They arrived at the Baltimore International Airport at 4:30 p.m., Monday, February 25 and proceeded to the International Friendship Hotel where they rested and freshened up prior to having dinner at the Hotel. After dinner the team rested for the evening. Mr. Cusack, Frank Yapas, Norm Baardman and Berbie Michels reviewed the schedule and made some last minute changes.

On Tuesday, after breakfast, the team bused to the Naval Academy where they toured the grounds and looked at some of the classes which were in session. They were extremely interested to observe these classes and to know how classroom instructions were handled. Luncheon was provided by the Brigade of Midshipmen and afterwards the team relaxed in the visitor quarters for about an hour. Following this, the gymnasts had a light workout with the U.S. Navy Team at McDonough Hall. Here the Navy Team presented a plaque to the manager of the Polish team. After the workout the team came back to the hotel.

On Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. a reception was given by the principal of the Dulany High School, Mr. Maynard Kende. It was a highly entertaining affair with songs and dances provided by the Polish Alliance group of Baltimore. The performers were wearing native picturesque Polish costumes which were very colorful. Mr. and Mrs. Messers of the Polish Radio station of Baltimore provided the interpretations during the post dinner ceremonies. The evening was climaxed by everyone (who could sing in Polish) rendering Polish Folk Songs. One humorous incident noted was that the case of the Polish judge, Mr. Josef Karasewicz, flew in from Toronto, Canada to see her brother. They hadn't seen each other for 34 years and it was very touching reunion.

On Wednesday morning, the team visited the White House where arrangements had been made for them to have a private tour. Pictures were taken on the White House lawn. After their visits were made to the Kennedy Center, the Kennedy Grave, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument. Leaving Washington, the buses went by the Jefferson Memorial and the Capitol Building. Luncheon was had at a nearby steak house and after the busy morning, much appreciated by everyone. Luckily, interpretation services were performed by the judge sister, Sophie, throughout the day. It was as though she had come down from heaven to assist in this particular way.

The team then rested before proceeding to Dulany High School gymnasium where they completely fulfilled everyone's expectations as reported above. It was a most enjoyable visit.

On Thursday, the Poles left for New Haven, Connecticut. They were greeted at the airport by their host Mr. Jerry Meyer, the president of Connecticut Gymnastics, Inc. As they say in Washington, D.C. it was at this point in time that the National Girls Gymnastics Team from Czechoslovakia were scheduled to arrive at New York's Kennedy Airport. Unfortunately their plane was 5 hours late and they didn't arrive in New Haven and get to bed until 1:30 a.m.

New Haven became the first city in the United States to host national teams of two European countries at the same time when the Polish men's team and the Czechoslovakian women's team competed against selected Eastern United States gymnasts on March 1st and 2nd, 1974. New Haven mayor, Bartholomew Guide proclaimed March 1st and 2nd as International Gymnastics Weekend in recognition of the significance of the efforts of Connecticut Gymnastics, Inc., the non-profit corporation sponsoring the visit of the foreign teams.

The teams toured Yale University and were hosted at the Payne Whitney Gymnasium by Mr. Dan Toney, gymnastics coach and assistant director of physical education, who conducted a lengthy tour of the vast athletic complex.

Each team also visited the McDonald's restaurant where they toured the working area and were treated to their selections from the menu. The training program of McDonald's was explained to the gymnasts and coaches who recognized the dedication demanded of a training program in business similar to that required for gymnastics.

The men's meet was held on Friday night at the home of the defending NCAA College Division champions, Southern Connecticut State College, and was the first major event at their new field house. The U.S. team was comprised of Southern Connecticut State College all-around men Jay Whelan, Peter Kowman, and Rich Onysko, Olympian John Crosby who returned to competition in the meet, Gene Whelan of U. Mass, and Bob Rice from Temple. Olympian Jim Giffene was injured and unable to compete. The team was coached by Olympic coach Albe Groszkold. The U.S. team, led by John Crosby, was victorious in the floor exercise event to open the meet and

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** Connecticut Gymnastics, Inc., a non-profit organization, in sponsoring the fourth world of two national gymnastics teams from different countries in a single city in the United States for dual meet competition on the same weekend; and
- WHEREAS:** New Haven is the home of the 1972 Olympic team for men's gymnastics, USA Gymnastics, and also the home of the 1972 NCAA college division gymnastics champions, Southern Connecticut State College; and
- WHEREAS:** New Haven is also the home of 1968 and 1972 Olympic world all-around champions, Rusti Decorsfeld. There are numerous other gymnasts in New Haven who are among the top gymnasts in the United States including Barbara Fumey, a 1972 Olympic, and Edie Novakovic and Thelma Spauld, students of Rusti and Barbara G. Lee high female all-arounders; and

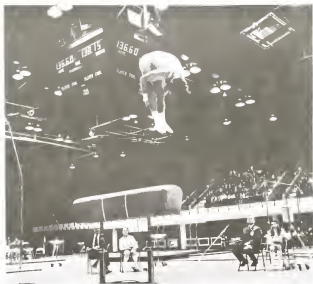
- WHEREAS:** New Haven has the facilities of the Veterans Memorial Coliseum and the Southern Connecticut State College Field House as well as the talent and dedication of the sponsoring organizations, the gymnasts and their coaches;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BARTHOLOMEW F. GUIDE, Mayor of the City of New Haven, do hereby proclaim March 1 and 2, 1974 International Gymnastics Weekend in New Haven and urge maximum support of the events which will highlight our city's reaction to the nation's sportsfest event.



ATTEST: CITY CLERK

Bartholomew F. Guide



Andrzej Szajna

performed strongly throughout the meet including a team victory in the horizontal bar event. The individual highlight of the meet occurred in vaulting where Andrzej Szajna scored 9.80 with a pike double front immediately followed by John Grey scoring a 9.7 doing a cartwheel on pike back off. In the all-around Szajna finished first with a score of 67.75 followed by Wilhelm Kubice and Mikolaj Kubica. Gans Whelan, Bob Rice, and

John Grey finished 4th, 5th, and 6th in the all-around. The team score was Poland 278.55, United States 274.75.

The Poles could only compete with 5 men with every score to count since Krusz and Pencik were injured prior to coming to New Haven. They performed well as attested to by the score above. The judges were Karszewicz of Poland, and Pazzoli, Hauben and Ronny from the USA. After the match the Polish

Felcers of New Haven provided a fine dinner and reception. On Saturday, the Poles went taken to New York City to see the Empire State, Statue of Liberty, the United Nations and to shop at the famous Macy's. In the evening they went to see the Czechoslovakian match and departed for Warsaw on Sunday laden with gifts and prizes and I am sure, fond memories of the United States.

THE CZECHOSLOVAKIAN WOMEN'S NATIONAL GYMNASTICS TEAM TOUR

After their team landed on Feb. 28, they were taken by limousine to New Haven (about 40 miles). They were tired but were amused since we had taken the toll road where you pay 25¢ every few miles. The girls at the inn had sandwiches and beverage waiting and they rested at 1:30 a.m. On Friday they visited Muriel Grossfeld's Gym and received the first of at least 6 shirts or leotards. They worked out and practiced pike but that evening of the Polish match they begged off as they were tired after the long trip plus the 6 hour delay. They did a little shopping in town in the morning on Saturday and rested in the afternoon for their match.

The women's meet was held at the New Haven Coliseum on Saturday night, March 2nd. The United States team was composed of elite level gymnasts Janette Anderson, Barbé Myslik, Cole Dowdley, Denise Walker, Lisa Cain, and Jill Haggis who replaced Olympian Rosemary Page who could not compete due to injury. The girls were coached by Olympic coach Muriel G. Grossfeld. Barbé Myslik was the outstanding performer for the United States winning first in vaulting with a score of 9.45, tying for first in uneven bars, and finishing third in the all-around. Other outstanding United States performances were a tie for first in floor by Janette Anderson, a third place for Cole Dowdley in uneven bars, and sixth place in the all-around for Janette Anderson. The team score was Czechoslovakia 185.70, U.S.A. 182.20.

Sharon Valley was the Superior Judge with Vera Razickova and Gita Machachova, the Czech Judges and Marilyn Schnuers and Marilyn Cross, the American judges. The Czech judges appeared to over-score their girls when their scores are compared with Sharon's scores. Sharon is of course an experienced International judge. After the competition, there was a joint reception with the Polish Team who attended the competition. In the morning the Czechs departed by bus at 10:00 a.m. for the triple cities of Endicott, Johnson City and Binghamton, New York.

The bus trip from New Haven was a fine trip up thru the mountains past West Point and into the Catskill mountain area. They had lunch in the heart of the mountains and arrived in Endicott at 3:00 p.m. Dr. Frederick Perce and his assistants greeted the Czechs. Dr. Perce describes the visit as follows:

"As I am sure you are well aware, the competition was well received in the Triple Cities area of Central New York State. We felt the meet ran very smoothly, and that the attendance of approximately 2500 people helped us to meet expenses. The competition was the very first held in the new Broome County Veterans' Memorial Arena. The meet started at 7:30 p.m. and was completed by 10:00 p.m. The final score was 151.56 for the Czechoslovakians and 145.60 for the Americans. Several outstanding performances by the American girls as well as by the Czechoslovakian team were well received by the audience.

The two days that the Czechoslovakian team spent in the Binghamton-Johnson City-Endicott area were very memorable ones for us, and we believe for them as well. On Sunday evening a dinner reception in their honor was held at King Arthur's Restaurant in Endicott. On Monday, the Czechoslovakian delegation was further honored by a breakfast and luncheon sponsored by local business groups. One of the highlights for the Czechoslovakian girls was a visit to the Triple Cities' Stars' Girls Gymnastic Center, where each one was allowed to choose a fancy new leotard as a gift from GYMS QUALITY KNITWEAR, a division of the Triple Cities' Stars'.

As a sponsoring organization, I firmly believe that gymnastics took a giant step forward in our community, and that the very warm and friendly feeling that was developed between the Czechoslovakians and our community was of mutual service to our countries and to gymnastics."

The Czechs left the next morning from the hotel at 6:00 a.m. in a driving rainstorm with the wind howling, after breakfast at the airport, the plane left late at 7:45 with stops at Elmira, N.Y., Erie, Pa., and a change of planes at Chicago on the way to Denver, Colorado.

The Czechs arrived at 2:00 p.m. in Denver and were met by Debbie Hill and Rudy Hill and many of "Hill's Angels" and other members of the committee. After checking in at the hotel there was time for a trip downtown and some shopping before a free reception at the Denver School of Gymnastics. On March 5, Tuesday, the Czechs worked out at the Denver School of Gymnastics in the morning and also received the Denver School shirts and in the afternoon they did some sightseeing and shopping in

Denver. The school gym at Lakeside was crowded for the exhibition match and the United States had Jackie Fie and Sharon Weber as judges and the Czechs Vera Razickova and Gita Machachova. The following is a reprint from the newspaper the following day:

Czech gymnasts win before 3,700 fans

By JOY BOELMAN

News Staff

With a standing-room-only crowd of over 3,700 backing out ovations to both teams, coach Rud Hill's ever-improving girls matched minnows all night long with the World's Third-ranked Europeans.

In the end, Czechoslovakia took out a 149.56 in 247.05 victory.

A controversial judgment that went against Denver's Debbie Hill—wife of the 1994 world and an Olympian in her own right—could have made it even closer.

Officially, the sheep-exclaiming screams here went to Czechoslovakia's Zdena Durackova with an intricate score of 9.56 (11 points would be perfect). Add under normal circumstances, there would be little argument with the award going to the pretty blonde 15-year-old from Valais.

But Wednesday was more than special to Debbie Hill. And she came through as articles before with a sensational performance as the bars.

The crowd roared her effort, her clean and finished, who has seen Debbie disappointed before in international competition, felt she had won as she was greeted waving off the mat by her younger teammates. And even the Czech judges had her first.

The trouble is, the hospitality of the American judges went too far. They gave the top award to Durackova while both Czechoslovakian officials went the other way.

It wouldn't have been around the final team score, but it would have given Hill



Left to right (back row) Marilyn Cross, Marilyn Schwarz, Gita Michalchova, Vera Runickova, and Sharon Valley

Front Row — Vlasta Bartunkova, Drabomira Smolickova, Zlata Darnakova, Sona Brankova, Jane Knopova, Czech Parazek, Lucie Hajkova

her desired victory for a tremendous effort.

DOBNAKOVA WAS smooth in her execution. But the most difficult part of her entire routine was opening handstand on the high bar. Then she was nearly flawless the rest of the way.

But in contrast, Hill gave it her best shot all the way. She opened with an eye-popping round that included a full twisting pike into the high bar. Then she quickly went to a front flip between the bars, later to a full twist stomach whip that left the spectators cheering and the finally, Dobna went into a straight body handstand into a full twisting front on her dismount.

After that, second place even to an Olympian was disappointing.

In the final accounting, the Czechs won each of the four individual events and all but the balance beam team event.

Vealier went to Sona Brankova, a national champion in this specialty and a member

of Czechoslovakia's Olympic squad in the 1972 Games. Dasha Smolickova, only 15 but obviously a strong addition to the Czech team, won the balance beam competition, while the free exercise went to another Czech National champion, Vera Runickova. It was Runickova, from the same small hometown as Smolickova — Ostrava.

THE OVERALL title was captured by Brankova, a star because of it, with scores of 5.65 in both vault and floor exercise and 5.35 in the beam and bars.

Brankova was second in the all-around scoring, trailing her teammate by 0.10 to 11.15. Hill was the leading American with 11.05, but not far back was Linda Aichele with 10.75 and next was 18-year-old Tyra Kerr with 10-year-old Tyra Kerr at 10.65.

The balance beam, goldman exciting as the other events but demanding for the contestants, gave new life to the Denver girls just after they had

experienced the letdown of Hill's second in the bars — where even the Czech judges made a point of personal congratulations after the obvious struggle.

After the first two events the Czechs who have been given more chance of upsetting the champion Russians in the World Games this fall in Bulgaria were ahead by 1.15. But following the beam, marked by several falls as difficult maneuvers, the margin was not greater.

At Aerial — S. Sona Brankova, Czech, 5.65 points; D. Dasha Smolickova, Czech, 5.60 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.55 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.50 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.45 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.40 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.35 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.30 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.25 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.20 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.15 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.10 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.05 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 5.00 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.95 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.90 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.85 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.80 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.75 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.70 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.65 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.60 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.55 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.50 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.45 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.40 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.35 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.30 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.25 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.20 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.15 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.10 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.05 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 4.00 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.95 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.90 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.85 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.80 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.75 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.70 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.65 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.60 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.55 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.50 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.45 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.40 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.35 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.30 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.25 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.20 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.15 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.10 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.05 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 3.00 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.95 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.90 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.85 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.80 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.75 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.70 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.65 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.60 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.55 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.50 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.45 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.40 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.35 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.30 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.25 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.20 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.15 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.10 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.05 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 2.00 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.95 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.90 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.85 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.80 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.75 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.70 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.65 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.60 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.55 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.50 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.45 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.40 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.35 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.30 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.25 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.20 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.15 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.10 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.05 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 1.00 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.95 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.90 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.85 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.80 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.75 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.70 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.65 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.60 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.55 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.50 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.45 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.40 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.35 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.30 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.25 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.20 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.15 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.10 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.05 points; J. Tyra Runickova, Czech, 0.00 points.


On Thursday March 7, the Czechs arrived in San Francisco and received a tremendous greeting at the airport and they were interviewed by reporter Sophie Stalman then informed us that the city employees were on strike and since the competition was to be held at the Civic Auditorium everything was chaotic. There was a remote chance that the strike would end. Bill Glower, President of the Women's Gymnastics Committee of Northern California, Sophie Stalman and the other members of the committee worked real hard in the emergency. The work outs that were scheduled across from the hotel had to be moved, transportation was difficult especially with the gas shortage and the match was finally shifted to San Francisco University. A lot of people worked hard to make the match the success it was in every way. They all

to be congratulated for a job well done. Mr. & Mrs. Gury held a reception and dinner Thursday evening with about 75 people in attendance and on Friday the Cochs worked out in the morning, and in the evening the Official March was held.

C29C245 & 1162

The match was held before an estimated crowd of 5,000 people, a tribute to the work and enthusiasm of the Northern California Gymnastics Committee and the gymnastics enthusiasts of the area. Maria Medvedeva Tyndal of Canada was the Superior Judge, Vera Ruzickova and Gita Makhachova were the Coach judges and Jackie Fia and Sharon Weber were the American judges. The Czechs won the Vaulting 48.65 to 48.20 and we won the Uneven Bars 46.90 to 46.25 and we had the lead after two events by 0.20. We had

to reshuffle on the Balance Beam and lost it by 47.20 to 47.20. We also lost the Floor by 47.45 to 47.10. Diane Durbair was easily the star for the U.S. scoring 37.40 in the All Around for a 2nd to Sona Bradova who scored 37.05. It is my opinion that under the present rules for women, the use of two judges from each country should be abandoned and only one judge from each competing country plus 3 neutral judges should be used. It appears that according to the rules, the superior judge has a problem to move judges who are in range. For example; examine the scores below in Vaulting. Check #3 under Czechoslovakia, L. Hajkova, The Superior Judge had a 8.90, the American judges had 8.80 and the Czech judges had a 9.30. According to the rules a 0.50 is allowed. There is certainly a major difference between an 8.80 and a 8.30. Men's rules do not allow such a spread.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------|------|---|------|-------------------------|------|----------------------------|--|-------------------------|--|-------|--|----|--|
| Lied/Discography | | Date/Date | | Name et prénom des juges Name & Vorname Richter/Richterin | | | | Namen | | | | | | | |
| SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. | | March 8, 1974 | | Artiste: Schwänzel | | | | MARIA TYNDALL CANADA | | | | | | | |
| EXERCICES: | | Saut de cheval | |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| à l'aveugle? Imponiert? | | Pferdsprung | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Hinderten? Hinderrungen? | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No. 1 | | VERA RUSIKOVA | | CZECHOSLOVAKIA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No. 2 | | JACKIE FIE | | U.S.A. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No. 3 | | GITA KACHACKOVA | | CZECHOSLOVAKIA | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No. 4 | | SHARON WEBER | | U.S.A. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| a | | b | | c | | d | | e | | f | | g | | h | |
| Nation A: CZECHOSLOVAKIA | | Note last Round | | Artiste Reiterin | | Judge Name(s) & Country | | Note last 10 Geführte Note | | Should prob. be omitted | | TOTAL | | RD | |
| 1. D. SMOLNIKOVA | | 9.075 | 9 30 | 9 30 | 9 00 | 9 30 | 9 20 | 9 20 | | | | | | | |
| 2. V. BARTUMKOVA | | 9.30 | 9 30 | 9 30 | 9 20 | 9 40 | 9 30 | 9 30 | | | | | | | |
| 3. L. HAJKOVA | | 8.975 | 8 90 | 9 30 | 8 80 | 9 30 | 8 80 | 9 05 | | | | | | | |
| 4. J. KROPOVA | | 9.25 | 9 20 | 9 30 | 9 30 | 9 50 | 9 10 | 9 30 | | | | | | | |
| 5. Z. DORNAKOVA | | 9.40 | 9 40 | 9 50 | 9 20 | 9 40 | 9 40 | 9 40 | | | | | | | |
| 6. S. BRADJOVA | | 9.425 | 9 40 | 9 50 | 9 40 | 9 50 | 9 30 | 9 45 | | | | | | | |
| 7. / | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total (include comments Total (einträge, Reiterin) | | | | | | | | | | | | 48 85 | | | |
| Nation B: U.S.A. | | Note last Round | | Artiste Reiterin | | Judge Name(s) & Country | | Note last 10 Geführte Note | | Should prob. be omitted | | TOTAL | | RD | |
| 1. J. ANDERSON | | 9.075 | 9 00 | 9 00 | 9 20 | 9 10 | 9 30 | 9 15 | | | | | | | |
| 2. NANCY THIES | | 9.30 | 9 30 | 9 10 | 9 40 | 9 20 | 9 50 | 9 30 | | | | | | | |
| 3. KYLE GAYBOR | | 9.125 | 9 20 | 9 10 | 9 20 | 9 00 | 9 00 | 9 05 | | | | | | | |
| 4. DEBBIE PIKE | | 9.25 | 9 30 | 9 10 | 9 30 | 9 10 | 9 40 | 9 20 | | | | | | | |
| 5. JOAN RICE | | 9.30 | 9 40 | 9 10 | 9 40 | 9 10 | 9 30 | 9 20 | | | | | | | |
| 6. DIANE DUNBAR | | 9.375 | 9 40 | 9 30 | 9 50 | 9 20 | 9 40 | 9 35 | | | | 45 20 | | | |

| Rank Rang Platz | Country Land Nation | Result Ergebnis Ergebnis | Score Punkte Punkte | Score Punkte Punkte | Score Punkte Punkte | Score Punkte Punkte | Score Punkte Punkte | Score Punkte Punkte | Score Punkte Punkte |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Czechoslovakia | | 47.45 | 41.30 | 44.40 | 46.45 | | | 181.35 |
| 2 | United States | | 47.10 | 40.00 | 43.20 | 45.40 | | | 186.30 |
| | Switzerland | | | | | | | | |
| | East Germany | | | | | | | | |
| | West Germany | | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Slovakia | Dobrota | Czech | 8.50 | 8.45 | 8.20 | 8.45 | | 34.40 |
| 2 | Romania | Vladu | " | 8.10 | 8.35 | 8.50 | 8.30 | | 33.35 |
| 3 | Russia | Jana | " | 8.30 | 8.50 | 8.50 | 8.30 | | 33.30 |
| 4 | Poland | Linda | " | 8.50 | 8.35 | 8.05 | 8.35 | | 33.35 |
| 5 | Czechoslovakia | Elena | " | 8.30 | 8.50 | 8.45 | 8.30 | | 33.35 |
| 6 | Sweden | Sara | " | 8.10 | 8.35 | 8.45 | 8.40 | | 33.35 |
| 7 | Denmark | Glenn | United States | 8.10 | 8.10 | 8.35 | 8.45 | | 33.40 |
| 8 | Italy | Jana | " | 8.30 | 8.40 | 8.20 | 8.45 | | 33.35 |
| 9 | China | Sara | " | 8.10 | 8.40 | 8.30 | 8.30 | | 33.35 |
| 10 | Australia | Jessica | " | 8.05 | 8.35 | 8.15 | 8.30 | | 33.35 |
| 11 | France | Debra | " | 8.30 | 8.10 | 8.30 | 8.30 | | 33.35 |
| 12 | Japan | Kyle | " | 8.40 | 8.10 | 8.05 | 8.30 | | 33.35 |

Another point to consider is why there would be such large differences. Is it because judges see less faults when their girls compete, do judges cheat in trying to win international matches? It is an inherent weakness in our sport. Let us take a look at this competition if only one judge was judging.

| | Difference |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| 1. Marie Tyndall (judging alone) | 1.70 |
| USA 187.90-Czechs 185.30 | |
| 2. Jackie Pe (judging alone) | 4.20 |
| USA 189.20-Czechs 185.00 | |
| 3. Sharon Weber (judging alone) | 4.90 |
| USA 190.00-Czechs 185.10 | |

In all three results above, the United States won easily against the official score of:

Czechoslovakia 187.55 — USA 186.20

How could this be? The Superior Judges scores are not used and now the Czech scores

1. Vera Rurikova (judging alone) 5.90
Czechs 189.40-USA 183.50
2. Gita Machackova (judging alone) 6.20
Czechs 188.90-USA 183.70

How can there be such a difference of opinion? How can one judge see the U.S. winning by 4.90 and another U.S. losing by 6.20.

On the morning after the competition, the Czechs toured San Francisco for 3 hours and left for Eugene, Oregon at 12:20 p.m.

The Czechs arrived in Eugene at 2:30 p.m. and were welcomed by many of the gymnasts of the National Academy of Artistic Gymnastics in Eugene, Dick Mulvihill, Linda Metheny and all the parents. Bob Mazany was the greatest, always there to take them wherever needed, interpreting and being himself a nice cheery man. The night they arrived Bill Baker, Gymnastics Coach of the University of Oregon was conducting the

gymnastics Finals for the Pacific Coast (Pac 8) and the Czechs attended some of the performance and also visited the National Academy. On Sunday morning the Oregon Gymnastics Association served a breakfast for them and they did some shopping before retiring for a rest before the exhibition. The exhibition was a great success with the National Academy girls giving a fine performance along with the Czech girls. A fine reception followed for the girls. On Monday the Czechs were treated to a bus ride to the rugged Oregon coast. They visited the nearland, ate seafood right on the Pacific Coast, drove south to see the San Lions coast, and picked up shells for super day. In the morning they had to leave for Washington, D.C.



Diene Dunbar

It is a long way from Eugene, Ore., to Wash., D.C. and the Czechs left at 8:10 a.m. for San Francisco to change planes (the strike was still on and the airport was superduty) and finally they reached Wash., D.C. at 8:56 p.m., where Mr. & Mrs. Mc Bride and the Marvaen girls met them with many of the parents. The Czechs had agreed to stay in Ruth Ann McIlroy's home which features 6 bedrooms and all the room to live like one big family. They enjoyed it so much and had the house to themselves and the dogs never had to ride out. It was a fine change from hotel living for them even though all the hotels were first class and very enjoyable. The Czechs worked out the next morning and after lunch did some sightseeing. In the evening they had dinner at the new Washington Avenue country Jerry and Mrs. Sachs and saw

the tennis matches and the girls got the signature of the Russian twins play Natasha. On Thursday morning they had a special tour of the White House and then after their workout they were guests of the Czechoslovakian Embassy where they met their Ambassador. It is a new fine Embassy and the Ambassador visited with them for 2 hours. That evening they gave their exhibition with members of the Mervetters before an overflow crowd which included the Czech Ambassador and his family. The Kretens had a reception after the exhibition for everybody including the Czech Ambassador and some of his staff. They were to leave in the morning for New York City.

The Czechs left for New York at 9:30 a.m. and were met in New York by Mr. & Mrs. Tausig. Marion Tausig had been

their interpreter in New Haven and her daughter had competed against them in Johnson City, N.Y. They drove us to a motel and were most gracious hosts until the Czechs left for Prague. Despite rain, rain and rain, the Czechs visited the United Nations for a tour, the Statue of Liberty. They did more shopping, saw Manhattan from all angles, were guests of the Tausigs for dinner and visited their home and spent a delightful evening. A truly fine visit to New York. Thus on Sunday after an 18 day visit to the United States, coast to coast, they departed for Prague. Dr. Pelet, Mr. Kovacic, Rudy Kyznar, Coach Panek and the lady judges were fine officials and all were impressed with all these fine representatives from Czechoslovakia.





FIG Committee Directors: Top Row: Klaus Thomsen, Frank Bane, Felix Fernandez, Max Bengert, Seol A. Gensari, & Mario Getto. Bottom Row: Yuri Tron, Pres. Arthur Gauder, Madrie Valerie Nagy, Tech. Director, Women, Takashi Kondo, Rudy Spurr. Absent was Ivan Iarouchvich, Tech. Director, Men and Mr. Radovenovich, Treasurer.

UNITED STATES GYMNASTICS FEDERATION

AGE-GROUP GYMNASTICS MEET

CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION

THIS CERTIFICATE IS AWARDED TO

FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE 1ST ANNUAL WEST VIRGINIA U.S.G.F. AGE GROUP GYMNASTICS MEET



Devotedly presented by the West Virginia University School of Physical Education, the West Virginia University Department of Athletics and the United States Gymnastics Federation in the interest of better gymnastics for the youth of America.



Bill Borsell, Technical Chairman for Men for W. Va., awards this free certificate for participation for Boy's Age-Group competition. The winners pictures are inserted on the certificate. In this event, Floor Exercise, the winners are: 1st. G. Baker (John Marshall H.S.) 2nd. Paul Borsell (Morgantown H.S.) 3rd. E. Debold (Marshall H.S.)

**USGF Foreign Relations Committee
Announces the Men's
World Games Staff 1974**

Rusty Mitchell has been selected to be the Coach and Gene Wettstone, the Asst. Coach-Manager of the Men's World Games Team. Rusty had a great record as a gymnast at Southern Illinois University and was All-Around USGF Champion 3 times, and was a member of the 1964 Olympic Team. Rusty is the Head Coach at New Mexico University and was the Coach at the World University Games Team in Moscow in 1973. Gene Wettstone, Head Coach at Penn State University, has had much international experience, and Rusty & Gene will make a fine combination in coaching the team in Munich in October.

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

The USGF will send the following people to International Competitions in June. To the 4th International "Zlatu Popovici" in Varna, Bulgaria. Kathy Howard and Ann Carr with Gail Davis as Coach and Jay Whelan and Tom Weeden with Abe Grosfeld as Coach. This is an important competition with Compulsions and Optionals and 30 countries are invited.

France will hold their 3rd International Women's Tournament in Antibes. Doree Dunbar and Janette Anderson with Sharon Valley as Judge. The USGF has sent girls to the last 2 Championships with Kim Chase and Roseanne Pierce finishing 1st and 2nd last year. 10 countries have entered this year.

OFFICIAL FIG CORRECTIONS

Please make the following corrections to the text under "Changes in the FIG Code etc." as they appeared in the April issue of the USGF NEWS on pages 2 & 3. On page 3 under Beam, g. should read as follows:

g. An optional exercise shall contain three acrobatic elements (or three series maximum), but the overall composition of the exercise must comply with all the prescriptions specified in the Code of Points: one 360° turn, one jump, movement of the body, takeover, inverted stretched support, etc. the balance of g remains the same.

Under i. second line should read as follows: 3 Superior difficulties (between the mount and the dismount).

On page 2, Unseen Bar, added to number 7. Dismount from 3/4 sole circle to backswing is a medium difficulty.

'74

USGF CONGRESS

1974 U.S.G.F. CONGRESS
NOVEMBER 8, 9, 10, 1974.



The 1974 USGF Congress will be held in Chicago (hotel to be announced) on November 8, 9, & 10. In addition to the busy schedule starting Friday morning, the USGF has arranged to start the Russian Tour in Chicago on November 8, with Olga Korbut and Lyudmila Turashcheva leading the Women Gymnasts and Andriana and Klavdiya leading the Men Gymnasts. The World Aerobic Champions and the World Modern Rhythmic Champions will also perform on the tour, also Mr. Yuri Titov, Chief of Gymnastics in the USSR, is expected to address the Congress. All of the Russian gymnasts will be invited.

Advance registration will be \$25.00 which will also include the Saturday night cocktail party and the USGF Banquet, and a ticket to the Russian performance on Friday evening. Advance registrations close November 1, late registrations will be \$30.00. Please mail your registration check to - USGF Congress - Box 4899 - Tucson, Az. 85717.

SCORE TODAY WITH...



LIGHTWEIGHT SPORT SOCKS

Custom designed for the gymnast



Peds the original maker of foot socks, offer "GYM GIRL", lightweight sock, made for snug comfort and sure-footed performance, (50% cotton - 50% stretch nylon). Ask for GYM GIRL Peds at your nearest athletic equipment store or use our convenient order form below.

SCORE 3 WAYS!

1. A sure-footed performance. 2. A special 40% discount for club or school group orders. 3.... and for every package of GYM GIRL Peds sold, "Peds" will make a contribution to the USGF to help gymnasts compete in International Competition. *Suggested retail price 79¢ per pair*

Peds Products Inc., P.O. BOX 5457, RIVERSIDE, CALIF. 92507

Please send the following: ☐ pairs size A (fits 8-9½)
☐ pairs size B (fits 10-11½) Minimum order 12
pairs — \$9.95 (Cash orders add 5% sales tax)
Amount enclosed \$ (No COD's please)

CLUB OR SCHOOL ☐ ☐

ADDRESS

CITY

STATE ZIP



LILBOV BOGDANOVA - USSR

United States Gymnastics Federation

Executive Offices: P. O. Box 4699, Tucson, Arizona 85717

To:

Attn: Sports, PIS
P.O. Box 312
Jefferson, Iowa 50129

THIRD CLASS MAIL